IN THE CLAIMS:

1 - 55. (Canceled)

56. (Currently Amended) A system that includes a security policy server, an identification authority server, a revocation authority server, verification authority server, and a user computer, comprising:

a module within the identification authority server that, pursuant to a <u>first long</u>term policy <u>that establishes identity of said user in said network</u>, received from said security policy server, and a <u>first</u> request from said user computer, prepares and sends to said user computer, via a public network to which said user computer, identification authority server, revocation authority server, and said verification authority server are connected <u>and through which said identification authority server and said revocation</u> authority server interact with said verification authority server and said user computer, an identification certificate that includes a freshness constraint represented by a time duration referenced to time of said <u>first</u> request by said user computer;

a module within said revocation authority server <u>configured to store</u> in a memory <u>that is coupled to said revocation authority via said network</u>, a validity statement in response to a received <u>second short-term</u> policy <u>that is time-of-day sensitive</u>, and <u>to update said validity statement at specified intervals</u>, said validity statement <u>pertaining solely said user and including an explicit</u> verification status <u>for said user as of a specified date and time at-some-temporal-reference</u>;

means <u>configured to provide</u>, in response to a <u>second</u> request initiated by said user computer, said identification certificate and said validity statement retrieved from said memory, to said verification authority server, via said public network; and

a module within said verification authority server <u>configured to verify</u> that said request is within said time duration and said validity statement permits serving said <u>second</u> request by said user computer.